Cold Weather Driving Hints

1) Stay in Your Car:

The most important thing to remember if you are stranded in a blizzard - stay in your vehicle. Do not attempt to walk for help. Disorientation and/or hypothermia occur quickly in blowing and drifting snow. STAY IN YOUR VEHICLE!

2) Avoid Carbon Monoxide Poisoning:

The main danger of staying in your car is from carbon monoxide. However, if your exhaust system is in good condition, you should be safe. Run the engine and heater sparingly, and occasionally open a 'down wind' window for ventilation. Because of drifting snow, check frequently to be sure your exhaust pipe is not being blocked. Running the heater only 20 minutes per hour should be enough to keep you reasonably warm, and will stretch your gas supply. Remember, if you can't keep your tailpipe clear of drifting snow, don't run your engine, as exhaust will be forced into your car.

3) Have a Complete Emergency Stock in Your Car:

Click here for a checklist containing enough emergency supplies to allow you to successfully wait out a blizzard until help arrives, even if you may be stranded for a couple of days.

These hints are taken from the Winter Driving Booklet published by Wyoming Emergency Management Agency.